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RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

Year Ending 31st December, 1959

C. W. & W. Stringer, 63, High Street, Runcorn.

RURAL DISTRICT AUTHORITY OF RUNCORN

ANNUAL REPORT

1959

by

J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
RUNCORN URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS

OFFICIALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(1) Medical Officer of Health Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts

(2) Divisional Medical Officer of Health
Divisional School Medical Officer (Runcorn Division)
J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors and Meat and Food Inspectors:

D. BOOTHMAN, M.A.P.H.I., Senior Public Health Inspector
National Certificate in Building
Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.)
Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)
Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)
Offices: Public Health Department, Castle Park, Frodsham.
Telephone No. Frodsham 2186.
Sub-Office, 22 Orchard Street, Stockton Heath.
Telephone No. Stockton Heath 1024.
Residence Telephone No. Frodsham 2219.

G. F. SIXSMITH, Additional Public Health Inspector
Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.)
Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)
Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)
Housing Management Certificate (The Institute of Housing)
Diploma in General Hygiene Advanced (R.I.P.H. & H.)
Residence Telephone No. Warrington 32465.

D.E.JONES, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector
Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.)

Clerk/Pupil Public Health Inspector:

A. A. KIPPAX, died 30.12.59.

Clerical Duties:

MRS. B. HAYES.

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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUNCORN, 1959

From 5th May, 1959

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR DONALD L. DAVIES, J.P., Resigned December 1959

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. A. GLOVER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. A. GLOVER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. STANSFIELD, J.P.

Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR G. J. FORD, Chairman

COUNCILLOR MRS. I. J. WALLIS, M.A., died 25.10.59

COUNCILLOR C. HOLDEN. (Vice-Chairmen)

Councillor Mrs. K. I. Dewes, C.C.		Councillor H. Jackson	
,,	H. R. Done	,,	A. Jones, C.C.
,,	J. Garner	,,	J. W. Kirkham
,,	H. Helsby	,,	R. E. Payton, C.C.
,,	J. Hunt	,,	W. H. Stubbs

Ex Officio: Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the District Council

OFFICERS:

Solicitor/Clerk of the Council:

Mr. R. PATRICK WILLIAMS, Frodsham

Engineer and Surveyor:

Mr. B. PRESTON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Frodsham

INTRODUCTION

To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Runcorn

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlmen,

I have the honour to submit the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report for 1959. During the first three months of the year Doctor E. N. Hillman Gray was Medical Officer of Health.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for 1959 was 24.09, which was higher than the national figure of 22. The reduction of this figure depends on mothers taking full advantage of the provisions for ante-natal care and child care which are provided by Local Health Authorities and Family Doctors. Health education is of prime importance in ensuring that mothers use the facilities available, and this task falls upon the Health Visitor, who is the mainstay of any health education programme. A healthy environment is another factor which favourably influences the Infantile Mortality Rate—your house building and slum clearance programmes playing their part.

During the year 13 males and 1 female died from lung cancer. This disease is a very serious problem—the national figures show 54 deaths daily in 1958. Basically its prevention is simple—stop smoking.

Chronic Bronchitis accounted for 15 deaths, 11 males and 4 females. Of great importance amongst the causes is atmospheric pollution Since far more than half the visible smoke is produced by the domestic coal fire, measures for smoke control are needed particularly in the built-up areas of the district.

There were 73 deaths from Coronary Thrombosis, of which 8 were of men under 55 years of age. Further breakdown of the figures show:—

Age	Male	Female
55-64	15	4
65-75	21	10
75+	13	13

No particular class or occupation could be demonstrated to be more at risk than others from the figures. The cause of this disease remains unknown, so that advice on prevention cannot be based on facts at present.

There were no serious outbreaks of Infectious Disease during the year.

The Senior Public Health Inspector reports on some of the smells that have been troublesome during the year. The main source of trouble has been the Manchester Ship Canal. In warm weather the smell is foul. It is a serious nuisance, and action to reduce the pollution of the canal is needed quickly.

It is with deep regret that I record the death of Mrs. I. J. Wallis, Deputy Chairman of the Public Health Committee during the year. Her keen interest in the work of the department was much appreciated by the staff.

Just as the year ended, Alan Kippax, the Pupil Public Health Inspector, died tragically. His cheerful courtesy and interest in his work had made him a valuable member of the staff, whose loss we all feel keenly.

My thanks are due to the Senior Public Health Inspector and to all the Staff for their co-operation and help throughout the year.

Yours obediently,

J. L. PATTERSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(*a*)	Area (in acres)	45,552
(*b*)	Estimated population—Mid Year (Registrar-General)	38,140
(*c*)	Number of inhabited houses (end 1959) according to the Rate Book	12,762
(*d*)	Rateable value of the District (31.12.59)	£449,443
(*e*)	Sum represented by one penny rate (estimated) Net	£1,794
(*f*)	Average number of persons per inhabited house (estimated population)	2.98
(*g*)	Density of population. Number of persons per acre (estimated population)	0.83

Social Conditions

Agriculture and dairy farming are the chief industries of the district; other industries are tanneries, electric cable, electric fittings, steel tube works, wire works, flour mills and jam works. Sand quarrying is being carried on in the district, chiefly at Whitley and Moore.

Parts of the district are mainly residential.

Unemployment.—Exact statistics are not available for this area as the figures obtained by the local offices of the Ministry of Labour related to the areas served by such offices and these areas are not identical with the Runcorn Rural District. The incidence of unemployment, however, was low in the area.

Many of the inhabitants are employed in industrial areas outside the district.

Childrens' Homes.—There is a National Children's Home at Frodsham (173 children), one open-air Convalescent School for Jewish children at Norley.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area Comparability Factors: Births: 1.04
Deaths: 0.98

Population (Mid-year Estimated) 38,140

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	568	269	299
Illegitimate	13	9	4
Total	581	278	303

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.20

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 2.23%

Still Births—

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	1	0
	5	4	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births 8.53

Total live and still births 586

Number of Infant Deaths (deaths under one year of age)—

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	13	9	4
Illegitimate	1	1	0
	14	10	4

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births 24.09

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 22.88

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births 76.92

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks (9) per 1,000 total live births) 15.49

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 week (8) per 1,000 total live births 13.59

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) 22.88

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths ... ... Nil

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ... Nil

Summary of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1(a)	Prematurity	Male aged 6 days
1(a)	Asphyxia Neonatorum	Male aged 40 minutes
1(a)	Cerebral Haemorrhage	Male aged 7 hours
1(a)	Pulmonary Atelectasis	Female aged 3 days
1(a)	Myocardial failure, (b) Congenital cardiac disease, 2 Broncho pneumonia and anaemia	Female aged 3 months
1(a)	Congenital bilateral atelectasis, 2, Ante partum haemorrhage of mother	Female aged 11 hours
1(a)	Cerebral haemorrhage, (b) Tentorial tear	Male aged 2 days
1(a)	Cerebral haemorrhage	Female aged 3 days
1(a)	Intra cranial haemorrhage following a normal vaginal delivery	Male aged 1 month
1(a)	Prematurity	Male aged 1 week
1(a)	Congenital hydrocephalus ...	Male aged 6 months
1(a)	Cerebral birth injury, (b) Malrotation during labour, (c) Dry labour	Male aged 1 day
1(a)	Acute bronchiolitis and (b) cardio respiratory failure due to acute bronchiolitis	Male aged 3 months
1(a)	Congenital spina bifida	Male aged 3 months

DEATHS 1959

Total Deaths	442
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.58

Common causes of death:—

Heart Diseases—	
Coronary Disease; Angina	84
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	10
Other Heart Diseases	51
Total	145
Cancers	75
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	70

COMPARISON RATES

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1949	34,550	11.75	11.92	27.66
1950	35,580	13.91	10.72	20.20
1951	35,510	13.83	13.89	48.88
1952	35,520	13.86	11.38	20.32
1953	35,800	13.63	10.28	22.54
1954	36,260	13.59	12.58	24.34
1955	36,810	13.36	11.49	14.22
1956	37,080	14.10	11.84	24.85
1957	37,470	15.55	11.10	12.00
1958	37,850	15.61	11.25	21.99
1959	38,140	15.20	11.58	24.09

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. Public Health Officers

The names and qualifications, districts, addresses and telephone numbers are given at the beginning of the Report.

2. Laboratories

Facilities are given by:

The Public Health Laboratory, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The Public Health Laboratory, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

The Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester.

The Public Health Laboratories at Warrington and Chester Royal Infirmaries.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Runcorn Rural District Council

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank the Medical Officer of Health for this opportunity of presenting this part of the report on the environmental health services of the Department for the year 1959, Sections C, D and E.

The table of visits given on page 17 does not necessarily indicate the amount of work done, since a visit may involve a few moments

or indeed half a day. In general, however, it does indicate the division of the work in proportions against the various headings, much of which work is not reported as items to the various Committees. It will be seen that work under the Housing Act in surveying unfit houses for the 2nd Five Year Scheme was in evidence. Secondly, much time is spent on drainage and septic tanks, for the most part advising people on the provision of new drainage systems and sorting out the problems of old systems, inevitable where parts of the district are not sewered. The initial inspections of houses wih regard to applications for Improvement Grants, are made by this department, with the necessary interviews with owners and builders in giving general advice.

Food premises maintain a reasonable standard under the Food Hygiene Regulations, and a limited amount of routine inspection has been carried out. 100% inspection at slaughterhouses has been maintained.

Much detailed inspection was carried out in conjunction with Officers of the County Fire Brigade, of licensed Petroleum Stores New regulations were adopted as regards Principles of Construction, including the new Electrical Code, and Conditions of Licence. The testing of existing old tanks continues.

D. BOOTHMAN,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

SECTION C

1. Water

Comment by the Water Engineer and Manager of Warrington Corporation, the Water Undertaking for the whole of the district except Halton which is served by the Runcorn and District Water Board is as follows:—

"(i) Pressures in the Helsby Area have been improved where they have been the subject of complaint."

"(ii) Analyses are taken monthly (bacteriological) and quarterly (chemical) from all sources operated by Warrington Corporation."

"(iii) The Public Analyst, Mr. J. G. Sherratt, confirms that all sources of supply in the Runcorn Rural District Area operated by Warrington Corporation have been satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically during 1959."

Mains supplies and results of chemical analyses and bacteriological examinations are as follows. Parishes refer to the main areas; outlying portions of parishes may be connected to other mains.

Chemical Analyses	*Helsby Well (no treatment) to Alvanley, Helsby*	*Liverpool Vyrnwy to Aston, Walton and part of Stockton Heath*	*Runcorn and District Water Board to Halton*	*Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board to Budworth Village and Ball Lane, Kingsley*	*Warrington Harrol Edge & High Warren Reservoirs to all other parishes*	
					Foxhill Pumping Station 2 parts	*Newton Hollow Pumping Station 1 part*
Date	9.6.59.	17.7.56	25.1.55.	13.5.58	9.6.59	9.6.59.
Appearance	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and slight yellow	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Re-action	pH 7·4	pH 6·4	pH 6·6	pH 7·1	pH 7·0	pH 7·5
	Parts per million.					
Total solids	300	65	76	230	192	184
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0.00	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0.00	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	1·25	0·75	0·05	4·5	Less than 0.5	1.75
Chlorides as Cl.	42	9·5	8·7	25	27	20
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in four hours at 27° C.	0·35	1·3	2·42	0·00	0.35	0.45
Total hardness	207	16	19·5	155·5	113	130
Temporary hardness	188	12	13·0	118	98	110
Permanent hardness	19	4	6·5	37·5	15	20
Alkalinity as CaCo3	188	12	13·0		98	110
Potassium, as K	2·8	—			1.8	1.5
Free chlorine	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manganese	Nil				Nil	Nil
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION:—						
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 37°C in 48 hours	9.6.59 1	19.8.58. —	18.2.58.	4.11.58.	9.6.59. Nil	9.6.59. 1
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 20/22°C in 3 days	Nil	—			Nil	1
Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 mls	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Probable No. of faecal coli per 100 mls	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Report	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

Analyst's Opinion

Helsby 9.6.59—The chemical analysis of this water is satisfactory

Liverpool Vyrnwy 17.7.56—The chemical analysis of this water is satisfactory.

Runcorn and District Water Board 25.1.55.—The chemical analysis of this water is satisfactory.

Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board 13.5.58.—The chemical analysis of this water is satisfactory.

Warrington Harrol Edge and High Warren Reservoirs 9.6.59.—The chemical analysis of this water is satisfactory.

Private water supplies are bacteriologically examined at least twice per year. Where, as a result of such sampling, the supplies have been established as unsatisfactory, Notices advising that the water be boiled or chlorinated before drinking, dietetic and dairy purposes are sent and repeated quarterly to the owners and occupiers.

Where farms and farm cottages are concerned, the owners are strongly advised to obtain a mains supply with the assistance of the Cheshire Agriculture Committee under the Agricultural (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1944, Sec. 5.

Mains extensions were carried out for new housing development.

One house was connected to a mains supply.

(iv)

Parish	(a) Public Water Mains				(b) Private Supplies					
	Direct to House		Standpipes		Private Water Mains		Wells and Springs			
							Good Quality		Suspicious or unsatisfactory Quality	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
Alvanley	104	314	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6
Antrobus	229	682	1	5	—	—	—	—	5	15
Appleton	1431	4277	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Aston	47	134	—	—	27	87	—	—	—	—
Budworth (Great)	121	362	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daresbury	91	271	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	96	316	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	5
Frodsham	1874	5614	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grappenhall	2364	7074	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Halton	465	1386	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hatton	100	296	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	6
Helsby	1041	3105	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kingsley	371	1102	6	18	—	—	2	8	2	6
Manley	155	462	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—
Moore	181	539	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norley	299	890	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—
Norton	16	41	—	—	25	81	—	—	—	—
Preston Brook	146	433	—	—	1	4	—	—	2	6
Stockton Heath	2422	7220	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stretton	153	455	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7
Sutton	259	772	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Walton	526	1567	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitley	182	542	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	12673	37854	10	32	53	172	6	23	20	59

2. Drainage and Sewerage

Kingsley and Norley.—The Ministry of Housing and Local Government approved the scheme in principle and gave permission to advertise for tenders.

Frodsham—Hares' Lane Pumping Station—The scheme commenced and continued during the year.

Appleton—The works and some lengths of sewers were taken over from the R.N.A.S. now disbanded.

Other matters requiring attention in the future are:—

1. Helsby—new intercepting sewer and sewage disposal works extensions.
2. Great Budworth—sewers and sewage disposal works.
3. Stretton—sewage disposal improvements.
4. Acton Grange—works enlargements.
5. Moore—sewage disposal improvements.
6. Grappenhall, Stockport Road—sewers.
7. Norley—Sewers and sewage disposal works.

When septic tanks are installed it is important that **adequate filtration or subsoil irrigation** is provided to prevent pollution of watercourses and ditches. **In addition, the septic tanks should be maintained and desludged at regular intervals.** Many inspections have been carried out in connection with existing installations and in giving advice on new proposed works.

3. Rivers and Streams

Pollution of ditches and streams remains a problem owing to the erection of new houses, improved sanitary appliances to existing houses and improved milk and dairy technique in parishes without sewers. Private owners are advised on the best type of septic tanks and filters for their property. Where such properties are in groups, the only final satisfactory solution is the provision of a sewer and sewage disposal works. Liquor from cowsheds and silage pits presents a particularly difficult problem where it is not collected and returned to the land as manure. With the continued improvement of farm premises, usually involving more intensive animal husbandry, farmers are faced with the fact that the foul drainage must be dealt with in such a manner to avoid nuisance and pollution of ditches and watercourses.

The two cesspool emptying vehicles are used for desludging septic and settling tanks on Council and Private property, and for the collection of nightsoil.

The Council give a free service for emptying wholly domestic septic tanks once per year as before, the applicant to have the access covers of the tanks loosened and opened up in readiness. The charge for industrial and farm liquor tanks remains at 30/- per hour.

All owners of properties having septic tanks have been invited to make use of this service.

Where plans are submitted to the Engineer and Surveyor involving drainage systems not connected to a public sewer, the observations of this department have been sought on the efficiency of the proposed drainage disposal.

Two tanneries at Grappenhall have now ceased as such and consequently difficulties arising from trade effluent received in the sewers and pollution of streams when the tannery pre treatment works failed to function, have disappeared.

The pollution of the non-tidal section of the Manchester Ship Canal continues, and causes objectionable odours after a prolonged period of warm weather (reported to the appropriate Rivers Board who have the matter under consideration).

4. Closet Conversions

Fourteen conversions to the water carriage system were carried out (five of these were included in Improvement Grants). Where this has been done voluntarily by the owners and is not part of an improvement grant, the Council has, when requested, paid a grant up to £15 provided that where a public sewer is not available the owners will, at their own expense, connect to a public sewer when it becomes available. The Council decided not to increase this grant, since the more generous improvement grants are available.

5. Public Cleansing

This is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor under direct labour. Disposal is by tipping and levelling with earthing over at intervals at two main tips and several smaller ones. Nuisance arises from flies, crickets and rat infestation, and to minimise this, in the interest of public health and amenity, fully controlled tipping is necessary.

During the warm summer a massive cricket infestation built up at Thelwall tip which was eventually brought under control with the use of insecticides, but not before the infestation had spread about that area. Consolidation and covering of the tipped material, as advised for controlled tipping and early appreciation of infestation would have kept the cricket infestation within bounds.

A tractor with mechanical shovel and bulldozing blade is used on the tips which much improves the control. Insecticides should also be used on tips as a routine matter from Spring to Autumn.

The cesspool emptying vehicles are adapted for the collection of the contents of pail closets and enables the collection and disposal of the nightsoil by discharging into the sewers to be carried out with the minimum of nuisance.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Nature of Inspections	*No. of Inspections*
Dwelling Houses (Housing Acts)	720
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Acts)	210
Dwelling Houses (Rent Act)	41
Dwelling Houses (Improvement Grants)	251
Dwelling Houses (Housing Applications)	129
Schools	2
Moveable Dwellings	63
Water Supplies—Samples	40
Other Inspections	5
Closet Conversions	29
Cesspools and Septic Tanks	95
Sewer Connections	10
Sewers and drains	539
Colour Tests	32
Ditches and watercourses	61
Refuse collection and disposal	57
Streets, yards and passages	—
Foul accumulations	14
Tipping on waste land	14
Vermin: Rats and mice	123
Insects	83
Keeping of animals	21
Dairies and Milk retailers	9
Milk Samples	11
Factories and workshops	19
Bakehouses	10
Shops and food stores	146
Food inspection—shops	62
Meat inspection—slaughterhouses	417
Canal boats	—
Infectious Disease enquiries	75
Mortuaries	28
Petrol stores	214
Miscellaneous	111
Divisional Health matters	25
Interviews with builders, owners, etc.	131
Ice-cream samples	30
Ice-cream premises	50
Clean Air Act	114
Total	3991

SHOPS

7. Shops Act, 1950

No. employing persons	150
No. employing members of own family only	165
	315

8. Clean Air Act, 1956

The Council are members of the National Society for Clean Air; and have adopted the Model Byelaws that domestic appliances installed in new buildings shall be capable of burning smokeless fuel or otherwise capable of smokeless operation.

Smoke Control Areas have not been set up. The Council consider this would best be done when the adjoining built-up Authorities develop their Smoke Control Areas contiguous to this District.

A limited amount of observation on industrial boilers has been carried out; by and large the plants as operated do not contravene the regulation for permitted discharge of black and dark smoke. One hospital, however, is particularly bad, and the attention of the Management Board has been drawn to this.

Shipping on the Manchester Ship Canal emits much black smoke, a problem which is being dealt with by the Port Health Authority. Any observations of particular offenders are referred to that Authority.

Noxious odours from industrial works are the subject of complaints from time to time. Those from oil refineries outside the district have not been troublesome during the year. There have been occasional incidents of short duration when the wind has been from the works towards Helsby and Frodsham, fortunately not the prevailing wind. Numerous complaints were made concerning a chemical works in Warrington. The smell that did arise was intermittent, and it was not established that it was injurious to health. During the warm summer the Manchester Ship Canal gave off offensive smells over a long period. Enquiries to the Mersey River Board revealed that practically all the water in the canal during dry weather is sewage or industrial effluent. Considerable effort is being made to reduce this, by the provision and modification of sewage works and trade effluent treatment works. Progress will be slow owing to the large capital works required.

9. Rats and Mice Destruction

The Senior Public Health Inspector acts as Rodent Officer—one full-time Rodent Operative is employed.

Farms are not treated by this Authority in general, except where the farm premises adjoin built-up areas, where block treatment with adjacent properties is essential to achieve control.

Farmers are supplied with Warfarin on charge when requested, and advice is always available. Inspections are carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

There are private contractors and servicing firms who provide a service for farms.

There were more than average minor infestations dealt with during the early winter when the rats moved into winter quarters. The very fine summer favoured their dispersion and multiplication in the fields.

Treatment was offered to industrial premises at a charge of cost of labour and materials. Some of these, schools, and one cooking depot, receive treatment as required on this basis; 17 others preferred to enter into contracts as before. Dwellinghouses receive free treatment unless the infestation is due to lack of hygiene or the unsatisfactory keeping of animals or poultry, in which case a charge is made. Warfarin with an oatmeal and wheatmeal base was used with satisfactory results.

Some 1,253 properties were inspected, and of these 730 were treated.

The Council has 17 tips, sewage outfalls and properties which receive treatment as required. The sewer systems in Appleton, Daresbury, Frodsham, Grappenhall, Halton, Hatton, Helsby, Moore, Stockton Heath, Sutton and Walton were test baited, and infestation was found in Frodsham, Hatton, Halton, Stockton Heath, Stretton and Walton, to a limited degree. The infested portions received two maintenance treatments.

10. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948
Home Office Form 572 (Revised)

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors:

Premises (1)	*Number on Register* (2)	*Number of*		
		Inspections (3)	*Written Notices* (4)	*Occupiers Prosecuted* (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	2	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	93	17	1	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	34	—	—	—
TOTAL	155	19	1	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	*Number of cases in which defects were found*				*Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted* (6)
	Found (2)	*Remedied* (3)	*Referred*		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	*By H.M. Inspector* (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	–	–	–
Overcrowding (S.2)	–	–	–	–	–
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	–	–	–	–	–
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	–	–	–	–	–
Ineffective drainage, floors (S.6)	–	–	–	–	–
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): (*a*) insufficient	–	–	–	–	–
(*b*) unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	–	2	–
(*c*) not separate for sexes ..	–	–	–	–	–
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	3	3	–	2	–

All factories are entered in the register kept for the purpose. Number of Outworkers—5, employed in the making of wearing apparel and curtains. No action taken during the year.

11. Swimming Baths

There are no Public Swimming Baths in the District.

12. Moveable Dwellings

Supervision was maintained on camping sites and individual moveable dwellings.

In addition to licences under the Public Health Act, movable dwellings require approval under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, which gives better control as regards amenity to the district than the Public Health Act. The Council have adopted the recommendations of the County Planning Officer on new camping sites which include the following:—

"The use of the said property as a camping ground shall mean its use as pitches for—

(i) tents covering an area not exceeding 100 sq. ft. each, or

(ii) caravans on wheels specially built for use as living accommodation and maintained in a fit state to be drawn or propelled on their own wheels on the public highway. No railway carriage, tram-car, omnibus body or other similar article, whether on wheels or not, and howsoever adapted, shall be permitted to be stationed or erected on the said property."

Many of the movable dwellings have had various unauthorised hut additions added, and measures were continued to have these removed or reduced to a modest size. Progress has been made on these lines, and some of the old fixed type huts and bus bodies have been removed.

The Council permit per caravan only one movable independent shed of up to 6ft. x 4ft. x 6ft. high (excluding closet accommodation) of good and neat construction.

There were 276 caravans occupied as permanent dwellings during the year. In general caravans are very unsatisfactory on health grounds as permanent dwellings where there are children, in particular as regards cooking, laundry and condensation caused thereby, and isolation in illness. The same caravan occupied say by a man and wife, both working, having a mid-day meal out and using the services of a laundry, may well be a satisfactory home.

The establishment of caravan sites on land that is sewered and can provide other services is most unlikely, since such land is scarce enough for building permanent houses.

A stage has now been reached when further caravans, particularly as permanent dwellings, should be discouraged, except for genuine short term requirements as employment on building projects of a limited period, or on a site where occupants await completion of a dwelling house.

CAMPING SITES

Number of licences in operation, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269:—

	Year of 1959
(a) For Camping Sites	21
(b) For fixed type dwellings sited on above Camping Sites	6
(c) For other individual movable dwellings	37
Estimated maximum number of Campers resident in the area at one time, during the summer season 1959	759

13. Insect Pests

No houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

Other infestations dealt with were ants, wasps' nests, cockroaches and house flies.

14. Schools

Inspections of unsound food were made when requested.

Routine preventative insecticide spraying was carried out at the canteens and kitchen three times for the Education Authority.

15. Mortuaries

The mortuaries controlled by the Council at Frodsham and Stockton Heath are in a satisfactory condition. Minor improvements were carried out.

16. Canal Boats

No canal boats were inspected during the year 1959.

Several visits were made to the canals, but as reported in past years road transport has superseded canal transport, as regards wharves in this district. A few boats continue to pass through the district.

SECTION D—HOUSING

1. New Houses brought into the Rate Book in 1959

Number of new houses erected by Local Authority and brought into the Rate Book	18
Number of new houses erected by other bodies and persons and brought into the Rate Book	298
Total	316

	New houses brought into the Rate Book. Total per Parish,		*No. of inhabited houses in Rural District,*
	Private	*Local Auth.*	*31st Dec., 1959*
Alvanley	7	Nil	107
Antrobus	Nil	„	235
Appleton	8	„	1432
Aston	Nil	„	74
Budworth (Great)	1	„	121
Daresbury	2	„	91
Dutton	1	„	99
Frodsham	20	„	1874
Grappenhall	208	„	2365
Halton	2	„	465
Hatton	2	„	103
Helsby	14	18	1041
Kingsley	5	Nil	381
Manley	Nil	„	156
Moore	1	„	181
Norley	1	„	300
Norton	Nil	„	41
Preston Brook	1	„	149
Stockton Heath	25	„	2422
Stretton	Nil	„	155
Sutton	„	„	259
Walton	„	„	526
Whitley	„	„	185
TOTALS ...	298	18	12,762

2. Housing

As envisaged in the previous year's report, a further survey of unfit houses was carried out; the houses considered unfit were viewed by a Sub-Committee of the Housing and Building Committee. Finally 179 houses were listed to be dealt with during the second Five Year period 1960-1965, and the phasing of action over that period was decided.

In spite of the Rent Act and the new Standard Grant, the older let houses still deteriorate unnecessarily owing to lack of reasonable maintenance. The financial incentive to owners to carry out a high standard of maintenance seems to be lacking, and it is apparent that vacant possession, giving opportunity to sell, is their desire.

The Council have approved the building of their first block of flatlets for aged people, where a warden will give daily supervision, and help if need be. It is anticipated that this scheme will be of

great benefit to the community, in releasing under-occupied houses, avoiding institutional or hospital care, and providing homes for these people near the locality they know.

3. Rent Act, 1957

Particulars of applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the above Act are as follows:—

PART I

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

1.	No. of applications for certificates	5
2.	No. of decisions not to issue certificates	1
3.	No. of decisions to issue certificates:—	
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	Nil
	(b) in respect of all defects	4
4.	No. of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	3
5.	No. of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
6.	No. of certificates issued	3

PART II

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

7.	Application by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	3
8.	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ...	Nil
9.	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' Objection	Nil
10.	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	3

4.

ANALYSIS OF UNFIT HOUSES

From 1st September, 1954, to 31st December, 1965

Parish	*Total - First and Second 5 Year Sch'me No. of Houses*	*Vacant*		*Demolition Order*	*Demolition Order or Agreement not to re-let but still occupied*	*Recon-ditioned or Improvements Commenced*	*Clearance Areas*
		Demolished	*Agreement not to relet*				
Alvanley	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Antrobus	12	3	—	—	5	1	—
Appleton	14	—	2	—	1	1	10
Aston	13	2	3	—	2	2	—
Budworth (Gt.) ...	11	3	—	—	4	1	—
Daresbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	7	—	—	—	5	—	—
Frodsham	167	32	10	12	11	12	30
Grappenhall	47	10	4	2	2	2	—
Halton	6	1	—	—	—	2	—
Helsby	46	2	4	1	10	3	11
Hatton	12	—	—	2	1	1	—
Kingsley	38	5	4	1	6	9	—
Manley	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Moore	15	—	—	2	2	—	—
Norley	9	2	1	—	4	—	—
Norton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preston Brook ...	5	2	2	—	—	—	—
Stockton Heath ...	32	9	2	—	1	—	—
Stretton	11	4	2	—	3	2	—
Sutton	14	2	6	—	5	1	—
Walton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitley	19	5	1	1	7	2	—
	483	82	43	21	69	40	51

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1959

	Houses	*Number of persons displaced*	*Families*
Part A—Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957) demolished	3	63	21
Part B—Houses not included in Clearance Areas:			
Demolition and Closing Orders			
(1) Housing Act, 1957			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17	11	25	12
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 17, and still in force	8	18	8
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 18)	—	—	—
	22	106	41

Repairs	Informal Action	Number of houses*
(2) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts ...		15

Action under Statutory Powers

(3) Public Health Acts

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by owners	11
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(4) Housing Act, 1957
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 16 and 24)

(a) by owners	7
(b) by local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

*—Note: A defective house remedied more than once during the period should be included once only.

6. Housing Act, 1957—Part IV—Overcrowding

		1958	1959
(a)	i. Number of dwelling overcrowded at the end of the year	4	3
	ii. Number of families dwelling therein ...	4	6
	iii. Number of persons dwelling therein ...	34	34
(b)	i. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2	2
(c)	i. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1	3
	ii. Number of persons concerned in such cases...	8	25
(d)	i. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil	Nil

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. (a) Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations
Number on the Register are:—

Dairies	2
Distributors	45

(b) Milk (Special Designation) Regulations
Licences issued:—

	Raw Milk T.T.	*Heat Treated Milk Pasteurised*	*Sterilised*
(a) Dealers	29	42	48
(b) Supplementary ...	6	8	8

On the 1st October, 1958, the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1958 came into operation in the Runcorn Rural District.

As from that date the provisions of Section 37(i) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, apply to the District, and only milk under the appropriate special designation may be retailed in the area. The authorised designations are:—

Tuberculin Tested
Pasteurised
Sterilised

Samples taken were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Birkenhead, and comprise the following:—

	No of samples	*No. of samples unsatisfactory*
Methylene Blue (keeping quality raw milks) ...	8	—
Phosphatase (Heat Treated Pasteurised Milks) ...	8	—
Turbidity (Heat Treated Sterilised Milks) ...	3	—
Of these samples number biological examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli	—	—
Number found to contain Tubercle Bacilli ...	—	—
Ring Test—Brucella Abortus (Referred to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food) ...	—	—

2. Food Premises in Area

Grocer and General Stores	97
Greengrocer	21
Sweets	47
Butcher	21
Chemist	7
Fish and Chips	7
Wet Fish	5
Tripe	1
Cooked Meats	1
Cafe and Restaurant	21
Licensed premises with Catering	58
Confectioners / Baker	16
	276

Number of Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Ice-Cream—Sale only	114
Manufacture Hot Mix	Nil
Manufacture Cold Mix	1
Total	115
Preserved Foods—Jam Factory	1
Sausage and Cooked Meats	19
Meat Pies	12
Fish and Chips	7
Total	39

68 inspections were made at Registered premises.

No special educational activity was undertaken, such as clean food guilds, or lectures on food hygiene, but advice is given in the course of inspections.

3. Ice-Cream

The hygiene of premises and personnel was satisfactory. There is only one manuacturer in the district, the complete cold mix method being used.

Samples of ice-cream were taken which were graded as follows:—

Ice-Cream—Grade 1	20
Grade 2	4
Grade 3	3
Grade 4	0
Ice Lollies—Satisfactory	2

4. Meat and Other Foods

The Public Health Inspectors act as Meat Inspectors.

During the year visits made in respect of Meat and Food Inspections were 62 in shops and 417 in slaughterhouses.

No Meat Marking Scheme under Part III of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is in force in this district.

Three slaughterhouses are licensed, of which two are in regular use.

The quantity of food condemned in shops and canteens during the year was:—

	lbs.
Carcase Meat	23
Cooked Meat	—
Canned Meat	165
Canned Fruit	240
Canned Vegetables	77
Canned Fish	8
Canned Soup	9
Milk	24
Other Foods	8
Total	554

Carcases inspected and carcases or parts condemned:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	*Cows*	*Cows slaughtered as reactors or under T.B. Order*	*Calves*	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Horses*
Number killed	405	59	1	150	2866	155	—
Number inspected	405	59	1	150	2866	155	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	1	1	—	—	16	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	61	2	—	—	278	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuebrculosis	15.30%	5.08%	0.00%	0.00%	9.69%	1.93%	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	2	1	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5 15%	3.38%	100 0%	0.66%	0.00%	0.64%	—
Cysticercosis : Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	–	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Meat and Edible Offals Condemned

The amount of meat and edible offals condemned was:—

For tuberculosis ... ... 1,178 lbs.
For other causes ... ... 3,521 lbs.

Condemned Food Disposal

Meat and other foods are stained with a green dye and disposed of by collection by approved Contractors, and burying deep in the Council's Refuse Tips.

5. Adulteration, etc. Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his department in the Runcorn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act during the year 1959.

Samples obtained during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

	Number obtained	*No. adulterated or not up to the required standard of quality*
Aspirin Tablets	1	—
Apples	7	1
Butter	1	—
Buttered Bread Rolls	1	—
Cheese (Gervais Demi Sel)	1	—
Cheese (Bleu Dompierre)	1	—
Cheese (Brie Farmhouse)	1	—
Cheese Spread	1	—
Cough Mixture	1	—
Cod Fillets Frozen	1	—
Cream	2	—
Cakes—Eccles	1	—
Cheese—Cammembert	1	—
Cheese—Home Produced Cream	1	—
Cod Fillets—Frozen	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Flour—S.R.	2	—
Gin	1	—
Glycerine	1	—
Honey	1	—
Ice Cream	1	—
Jam	2	—
Lard	1	—
Lemonade	1	—
Margarine—10% Butter	1	—
Meat Paste	1	—
Milk	71	23
Milk Cond. F.C. Unsweetened	1	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Pepper	1	—
Pork Roll, Stuffed, Tinned	1	—
Salmon—Tinned	1	—
Sweets	2	—
Soup—Tinned	1	—
Steak and Kidney Pie	1	—
Vinegar—Malt	1	—
Whisky	2	—
	118	24

Particulars of Non-Standard Samples

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1.	Milk	5.8% extraneous water.	
2.	Milk	4.6% extraneous water.	Wholesale consignment.
3.	Milk	3.5% extraneous water.	Farmer fined £26.
4.	Milk	3.5% extraneous water.	12. 0d. (£2 fine and
5.	Milk	2.4% extraneous water.	£1. 16s. 0d. costs in
6.	Milk	4.6% extraneous water.	each of seven cases).
7.	Milk	7.0% extraneous water.	
8.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%	Wholesale consignment.
9.	Milk	— do — 1.1%	No action.
10.	Milk	— do — 3.5%	
11.	Milk	— do — 3.5%	
12.	Milk	3.6% extraneous water.	
13.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%	Wholesale. Producer cautioned.
14.	Milk	Deficient in fat—13.3% Deficient in solids-not-fat 4.7%	
15.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%	Retail. No action.
16.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%	Retail. No action.
17.	Milk	— do. — 1.1%	Retail. No action.
18.	Milk	2.3% deficient in solids-not-fat.	Appeal to cow sample re No. 12.
19.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%	Retail. No action.
20.	Foreign Apples (Lebanon) ...	Contaminated with lead and arsenic.	Suppliers Cautioned.
21.	Milk	16.6% deficient in fat.	Retail. Cautioned.
22.	Milk	6.0% extraneous water.	Fined £5 and £6. 15s. costs.
23.	Milk	Sub standard but genuine milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3%	P.M. Appeal to cow re 22.
24.	Milk	— do. — 2.3%	A.M. Appeal to cow re 22.

SECTION F

DEATHS, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES— STATISTICS

1. Infectious Disease—Case Rates per 1,000 Population 1959

Provisional figures based on Quarterly returns

Population 38,140.

	Corrected Notifications	*Runcorn Rural District Rates per 1,000 Population*
Scarlet Fever	25	0.65
Measles	210	5.50
Whooping Cough	7	0.18
Pneumonia	8	0.20
Poliomyelitis	1	0.02
Dysentery	3	0.07
Erysipelas	2	0.05
Encephalitis	1	0.02
Puerpal Pyrexia	2	0.05
Food Poisoning	2	0.05

2. Details of Cancer Deaths over the past five years

Year	*Site*	*1-14*	*15-44*	*45-64*	*65-74*	*75 and over*	*Rate per 1,000 population*	*Total all ages*	
								M	*F*
1955	Stomach	—	—	1	3	4		4	4
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	3	4	1	2	1.60	8	2
	Other Sites	—	2	15	17	7		17	24
1956	Stomach	—	—	—	5	8		2	11
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	10	5	2	2.00	14	3
	Other Sites	—	1	14	14	15		26	18
1957	Stomach	—	—	3	6	7		11	5
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	5	5	2	2.40	11	2
	Other Sites	—	—	20	21	20		25	36
1958	Stomach	—	—	2	4	8		11	3
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	4	3	2	2.14	9	—
	Other Sites	1	3	16	17	21		25	33
1959	Stomach	—	—	6	3	3		7	5
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	4	3	3	1.96	9	2
	Other Sites	—	1	22	15	14		26	26

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS

3. Particulars of the 9 new cases of tuberculosis and of the 3 deaths from the disease in the area during 1959:—

AGE PERIODS *Years*	*NEW CASES*				*DEATHS*			
	Respiratory		*Non-Respiratory*		*Respiratory*		*Non-Respiratory*	
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
0–1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1–4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
4–14	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15–24	–(2)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25–34	2(2)	–(2)	–	–	1	–	–	–
35–44	1(2)	1(2)	–	–	–	–	–	–
45–54	–	1	–	–	2	–	–	–
55–64	–(1)	–(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–
65 upwards	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS	4(7)	2(5)	–	–	3	–	–	–

Figures in brackets relate to cases transferred from another district.

4 Tuberculosis cases on register. Comparative rates:

Year	*Estimated Population*	*Pulmonary*		*Non-Pulmonary*		*Total all Forms*	*No. per 1,000 of Population*
		M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*		
1949	34,550	62	37	31	34	164	4·74
1950	35,580	74	48	29	35	186	5·22
1951	35,510	79	55	25	34	193	5·43
1952	35,520	89	61	29	33	212	5·97
1953	35,800	93	67	27	30	217	6·06
1954	36,260	86	68	22	23	199	5·48
1955	36,810	91	63	20	20	194	5·02
1956	37,080	101	69	19	22	211	5·69
1957	37,470	104	79	17	22	222	5·92
1958	37,850	106	80	17	23	226	5·97
1959	38,140	109	77	16	23	225	5·89

5. Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases, 1959—Notifications

Disease	*Under* 1	1 *to* 2	3 *to* 4	5 *to* 9	10 *to* 14	15 *to* 24	25 *to* 44	45 *to* 64	65 *and over*	*Total*
Scarlet Fever	1	2	6	11	4	1	–	–	–	25
Measles .	6	49	56	86	13	–	–	–	–	210
Whooping Cough	1	3	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	7
Pneumonia .	1	–	–	1	1	1	1	–	3	8
Anterior Poliomyelitis	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Dysentery . .	–	–	–	1	1	–	1	–	–	3
Erysipelas . .	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	2
Encephalitis . .	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	2
Food Poisoning	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	2
TOTALS	9	55	64	100	20	4	4	1	4	261

6. Causes of Death at different Periods of Life during the year 1959:

Cause of Death	*AGE GROUP AND SEX*																*TOTALS ALL AGE GROUPS*	
	Under 1 year		*1 to 4 years*		*5 to 14 years*		*15 to 24 years*		*25 to 44 years*		*45 to 64 years*		*65 to 74 years*		*75 years and over*			
	M	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*	*M*	*F*
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	0
Tuberculosis: Other forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	2	2	1	7	5
Malignant Neoplasm: Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	3	—	2	1	9	2
Malignant Neoplasm: Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	2	1	9
Malignant Neoplasm: Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	5	13	2	7	5	25	13
Leukaemia; Aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	2
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	5	7	11	13	24	29	41
Coronary Disease; Angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	4	21	10	13	13	57	27
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	5	2	8
Other Heart Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7	3	5	7	12	16	24	27
Other Circulatory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	2	3	13	7	18
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	2	3
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	3	2	8	6	13
Bronchitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	1	1	2	2	11	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3
Ulcer: Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	2	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	0
Pregnancy: Childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	4	3	2	3	4	7	15	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	1
All Other Accidents	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	1	4	5	8
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	3	3
Homicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	12	3	1	0	2	2	3	2	7	5	68	46	66	48	66	111	225	217

Appendix "A"

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1959

By the

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Presented to the
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee
15th March, 1960

MEMBERS OF THE
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR J. W. KIRKHAM

Deputy Chairman:

COUNCILLOR T. H. LEATHER

Representatives of Local Health Authority:

County Alderman G. Astbury, Chairman, County Health Committee
County Councillor F. McBirnie, Vice Chairman, County Health Committee
Alderman W. Gittins,
County Councillor H. Mann
,, ,, A. E. Moors
,, ,, R. E. Payton
,, ,, Miss M. J. Preece

Runcorn Rural District Council Representatives:

Councillor Mrs. J. A. Glover
,, J. Hunt
,, H. Jackson
,, A. Jones
Councillor Mrs. E. Stansfield
,, Mrs. I. J. Wallis
,, Miss M. Whitlow
,, J. W. Woods

Runcorn Urban District Council Representatives:

Councillor A. Cooper
,, H. Goodall
,, T. J. Lloyd
Councillor H. Shacklady
,, T. B. Shallcross
,, R. Williamson

Co-opted Members:

Dr. E. R. Carter, Local Medical Committee for the County Palatine of Chester.
Miss T. E. Dudley, Cheshire County Nursing Association.
Councillor J. Tildsley, Runcorn Divisional Executive for Education.
Councillor W. H. Stubbs, Chester & District Hospital Management Committee.
Mrs. C. Evans
Mrs. E. A. Royle
Mr. J. D. Whitley
Mrs. J. C. Turner

Officers:

Clerk to the Committee: Mr. T. J. Lewis

Divisional Medical Officer: To 31.3.59. E. N. Hillman Gray, L.R.C.P. & S: L.M., D.P.H.,
From 1.4.59 J. L. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1959

INTRODUCTION

To: The Chairman and Members of the Runcorn Divisional Health Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this my Annual Report dealing with those portions of the Sections of Part III of the National Health Act 1946, for which this Committee is responsible.

As in previous years the report is sub-divided into the various sections of the Act and gives details of the work carried out during the year.

Attention is drawn to the large number of infants attending the Grappenhall Welfare Centre. It is unfortunate that the staff have to attempt to teach health in such poor surroundings. It is to be hoped that the new Welfare Centre will be available shortly in this rapidly growing area.

The ambulance service shows an increase in the number of patients carried and in the mileage.

Propaganda to maintain public interest in vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was continued with effective results, there being a further increase this year in the number of children protected.

The response to poliomyelitis vaccination was very satisfactory. Since the commencement of the scheme, 14,519 persons in the Division have been vaccinated. During the year, 9,866 persons, mostly children, were given their third injection.

The demand for domestic help continued to increase, especially for aged people. Each case was carefully reviewed from time to time to see if economies were possible. With the shortage of old people's beds in hospitals and welfare homes, this service is likely to continue to increase.

This is my first report to the Committee since my appointment, and I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Divisional Health Committee for their support and help to me on all occasions.

The co-operation and assistance of the County Medical Officer and his staff, the Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee, the staff in my Divisional Health Office and the nursing staff in the Division, has been greatly appreciated.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient Servant,
J. L. PATTERSON.

Divisional Health Office,
36 Halton Road,
RUNCORN.

SECTION 22

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

There are seven Child Welfare Centres in the Division, three of which are held in County owned premises (Runcorn, Frodsham and Stockton Heath) and four of which are held in premises rented by the County Council for the actual Sessions (Grappenhall, Helsby, Kingsley and Weston Point).

The Infant Welfare Centres are as follows:—

Frodsham	Welfare Centre, The Rock	Alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Grappenhall	Methodist Sunday School	Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Helsby	British Insulated Callenders' Cables Works Recreation Room	Alternate Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Kingsley	Hurst Chapel Halton Road	Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2 p.m. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Runcorn	Welfare Centre	Wednesdays
Stockton Heath	Welfare Centre 65 Whitefield Road	Mondays 2 p.m.
Weston Point	Conservative Hall	First and Third Thursdays of month at 2 p.m.

In addition to Infant Welfare Clinics, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Dental and Minor Ailments Clinics are held at the Frodsham, Runcorn and Stockton Heath centres during the month, and at Runcorn, Ante- and Post-Natal Clinics are also held each Thursday at 10 a.m. A Toddlers Clinic on the second Thursday of the month, and Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy Clinics are held during the month. A Speech Therapy Clinic is now held each Thursday at the Stockton Heath Welfare Centre.

The Committee inspected the Welfare Centres at Runcorn, Frodsham and Stockton Heath, and the Day Nursery, Runcorn, on the annual inspection of County owned and rented properties, and attention was given to alterations, repairs and replacements required.

Day Nursery

There is one Day Nursery in the Division, situated in Okell Street, Runcorn.

During the year, the average daily attendance at the Nursery was 28, a decrease of two on the previous year.

Attendances at the various clinics held at the Welfare Centres and for the Day Nursery are given in the following tables:—

A. **Mothers' Clinics**	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ante-Natal	156	620
Post-Natal	2	3
Dental:—		
Pre-Natal	18	38
Nursing Mothers	60	217
Dentures supplied	58	

Young Children's Clinics	New Cases	Total Attendances
(i) **Infant Welfare:**		
To 1 year	733	7,517
1 to 2 years	—	1,215
2 to 5 years	—	1,126
(ii) **Specialist:**		
Ophthalmic (under 5) ...	21	61
Dental Treatment (under 5)	80	100

B. (i) Welfare Centres

	New Cases 0–1	*Total Attendances* 0–1	1–2	2–5
Frodsham	83	718	114	207
Grappenhall	147	1,697	187	91
Helsby	64	936	206	225
Kingsley	23	232	31	63
Runcorn	231	2,368	439	449
Stockton Heath	143	1,248	149	44
Weston Point	42	318	89	47
TOTALS	733	7,517	1,215	1,126

B. (ii) Ophthalmic Clinics	New Cases	Total Attendances
Frodsham	5 ...	8
Runcorn	7 ...	26
Stockton Heath	9 ...	27
Totals	21 ...	61

(iii) Day Nursery, Runcorn

	Average No. Attending	Total Attendances
Aged 0—2 years	8 ...	1943
2—5 years	20 ...	4970

Sale of Branded Welfare Foods—The Sale of proprietory brands of Welfare Foods at Kingsley, Runcorn and Weston Point is carried out through my office. During the year, the total sales amounted to £1,095. 9s. 10d., an increase of £38 over the previous year.

At Frodsham, Helsby, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath Clinics, the sale of Welfare Foods is carried out by Voluntary Societies.

Distribution of Welfare Foods—M.O.F.—During the year no new distribution points were opened in the Division.

The following are details of the distribution points and commodities sold during the year:—

Centre	Commodities				
	N.D. Milk	*Half Cream*	*Cod Liver Oil*	*A. & D. Capsules*	*Orange Juice*
Runcorn ..	6,903	241	1,045	1,008	10,308
Alvanley ..	236	—	28	16	290
Appleton ..	543	—	40	12	296
Frodsham ..	2,139	61	466	347	3,866
Grappenhall ..	1,333	1	294	179	2,855
Halton ..	240	—	76	14	436
Helsby ..	683	8	179	174	1,945
Kingsley ..	116	4	74	44	358
Manley ..	309	—	25	31	234
Moore ..	261	—	20	16	271
Norley ..	244	—	23	12	171
Preston Brook ..	296	—	56	24	253
Stockton Heath	1,086	—	211	369	2,336
Sutton Weaver ..	452	—	47	18	261
Thelwall ..	32	—	7	14	77
Weston ..	230	—	19	24	439
Weston Point ..	1,028	—	140	111	1,584
Whitley ..	102	—	11	8	128
TOTAL ISSUES ..	16,233	315	2,761	2,421	26,108
Issues to Institutions ..	5	—	54	—	30
TOTALS FOR DIVISION ..	16,238	315	2,815	2,421	26,138

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

Under this Section the Committee are responsible for:—

(i) Provision, where necessary, of accommodation for midwives and the maintenance, repair and alterations required for such premises.

(ii) Provision of transport for midwives where necessary in cases of emergency.

Apart from the Midwife residing in No. 10 Cedar Avenue, Stockton Heath, all other County Midwives in the Division reside in their own homes.

During the year the Committee inspected the County rented midwife's property, and repairs requiring attention were dealt with.

Transport and medical requisites were provided as and when required.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The Committee are also responsible for the housing accommodation of Health Visitors. During the year the Flats at No. 10 Stanley Villas, Runcorn, were occupied by two of the Runcorn Health Visitors. All other Health Visitors in the Division reside in their own homes.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

With the exception of the three district nurses in Runcorn and one district nurse/midwife at Budworth and Helsby, who reside in their own homes, the remainder now reside in County owned or rented property.

The Committee inspected all County owned and rented properties in the Division, and action was taken regarding any alterations, repairs or renewals requiring attention.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Every effort was made during the year to bring to the notice of parents the need to have their children vaccinated and immunised, and it is pleasing to note that there has been an increase in both the numbers of children vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria and whooping cough.

Arrangements are being made for diphtheria immunisation clinics to be held at schools throughout the Division early in the new year.

The figures set out in the following tables, compiled from record cards received from medical practitioners, show the number of vaccinations and immunisations carried out during the year. For comparison purposes the figures for the previous year are also given:—

VACCINATION—

		Welfare Centres	*Doctor's Surgery*	*Patient's Homes*	*Total*
Primary	1959	93	648	14	755
	1958	128	512	38	678
Re-vaccination	1959	2	90	—	92
	1958	1	117	5	123

IMMUNISATION—PRIMARY.

		Welfare Centres	*Doctor's Surgery*	*Patient's Home*	*Total*
Diphtheria	1959	—	—	—	—
	1958	9	9	26	44
Combined Whooping Cough/ Diphtheria	1959	168	864	61	1,093
	1958	207	602	54	863

IMMUNISATION—REINFORCING INJECTIONS.

Diphtheria	1959	—	—	—	—
	1958	20	45	24	89
Combined Whooping Cough/ Diphtheria	1959	35	183	33	251
	1958	24	131	2	157

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Since the commencement of the scheme, 14,519 persons have been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis, and during the year 9,866 were given their third injection.

The response from parents for vaccination of children under 15 years was exceptionally good, and approximately 90% of the children in this group have now been vaccinated.

Evening clinics were held at Frodsham, Runcorn and Stockton Heath which were fairly well attended. Mobile clinics were arranged for the rural areas, but so few attended that they were discontinued.

Arrangements were made with the Managements of the British Insulated Callenders' Cables at Helsby, the I.C.I. works in Runcorn, and M.A.N.W.E.B. at Frodsham, for sessions to be held at these works and offices. The response was quite good.

The response from the 16-25 years age group was most disappointing, 2,439 people being vaccinated, which is estimated to be about 30% of this group.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

There were no changes in the vehicle or personnel establishments during the year, but clinic ambulance TMA 444 was replaced by Bedford 116 JMA.

One driver received a 4th bar to 5 years' safe driving medal, two drivers 1st bar to 5 years' safe driving medals, and 10 drivers one year safe driving diplomas for the National Safe Driving Competition. Twelve drivers passed their first aid examinations during the year.

The Committee inspected the Ambulance Station during the year, and recommended certain small alterations and repairs.

Details of Journeys carried out Direct by Ambulance Station

	Bedford Ambulances			*Bedford Clinics*				*Totals for Station*
	PTU 296	*835 BMB*	*XMB 268*	*TLG 538*	*TMA 444*	*XMB 258*	*116 JMA*	
Emergencies	45	329	129	21	31	35	1	591
Maternity	19	148	46	5	3	4	1	226
Accidents	7	112	48	9	6	6	—	188
Ord. Removals	189	335	295	12	20	32	—	883
Sitting Cases	1296	920	1039	2078	2037	2354	78	9802
Infectious Diseases	3	1	—	1	5	4	—	14
Total Patients	1559	1845	1557	2126	2102	2435	80	11704
Total Journeys	517	906	561	686	740	621	23	4054
Service Journeys	7	3	7	49	30	61	1	158
Mileage	16429	23651	16013	28176	25591	25735	595	136190
Service Mileage	55	28	98	388	241	480	15	1305
Petrol: Galls.	1101	1665½	1314½	1200½	1167½	1146	39½	7634½
Oil: Service	63	158	173	215	147	316	—	1072
Average M.P.G.	14.9	14.2	12.2	23.8	22.1	22.8	15.5	18.0

Details of Journeys Carried Out by Contractors

	Total No. Journeys	*No. of Patients*	*No. of Accident and Emergency Journeys*	*Total Mileage*
Ambulances	63	63	63	905
Cars	736	949	—	20,052

Details of all journeys made during the year as compared with the previous twelve months are as follows:—

	Journeys	*Patients*	*Emergencies*	*Mileage*
Ambulance Journeys				
1959	2,064	5,024	946	57,179
1958	2,192	5,271	951	61,283
Sitting Case Journeys				
1959	2,947	7,692	122	101,273
1958	2,204	6,056	102	82,159
Total all Journeys				
1959	5,011	12,716	1,068	158,452
1958	4,396	11,327	1,053	143,442
Increase	615	1,389	15	15,010
Decrease	—	—	—	—

The majority of patients in the Division requiring transport attend hospitals in Chester, Liverpool and Warrington, and the average mileage per journey for the year was 31.6 compared with 32.6 for the previous year.

The arrangements between the County Council and the Warrington Corporation whereby the latter supplied ambulances for the conveyance of non-infectious cases from Stockton Heath and the surrounding district, were continued during the year.

SECTION 28

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Tuberculosis

The Health Visitors were informed of all new cases and asked to visit and complete the environmental report sheet, and where the patients had not attended the Chest Clinic for examination, they were advised to do so. Every effort was made to persuade the contacts to attend for examination.

On receipt of the completed report sheets, these were checked to ascertain what help was required.

During the year No. 3 Mass Radiography Unit visited Stockton Heath and Grappenhall. This was the first time the Unit had visited this area, and the attendances were very good. The Unit also attended at Runcorn during the year.

Details of cases during the period 1st January to 31st December 1959 are as follows:—

	Pulmonary		*Non-Pulmonary*		*Total*
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	
(*a*) Total number of cases on register—					
1st January, 1959 ..	178	136	20	26	360
31st December, 1959 ..	183	135	19	26	363
(*b*) Removals from register, 1st January to 31st December, 1959—					
Died	7	1	—	—	8
Left district	—	6	—	—	6
Recovered	6	3	1	—	10
Lost sight of	—	1	—	—	1
	13	11	1	—	25
(*c*) Number of notifications received, 1st January to 31st December, 1959— ..					
New cases	11	6	—	—	17
Transfers	6	4	—	—	10
Restored to register ..	1	—	—	—	1
	18	10	—	—	28

B.C.G. Vaccination

During the year parents of children in the 13 years age group attending schools in the Division were given the opportunity of having them given B.C.G. Vaccination, and I am pleased to report that there was a very good response, approximately 80% agreeing to the vaccination of their children.

The following schools were visited during the period under review:

Balfour Road Secondary Modern School, Runcorn.
Runcorn The Grange Secondary Modern School.
St. Edward's R.C. School, Runcorn.

Helsby County Grammar Schools (Boys and Girls)
Helsby Secondary Modern School
Frodsham Secondary Modern School
Kingsley Secondary Modern School
Stockton Heath Secondary Modern School
Stockton Lodge Private School, Stockton Heath
Marlfield Private School, Grappenhall
Grappenhall Hall Special School, Grappenhall
Belmont Hall College, Gt. Budworth.

Details of the number of forms issued, tests carried out and B.C.G. given during the year are as follows:—

Before Vaccination

No. of consent forms issued	725
No. of children for whom consent received	588
No. Mantoux tested	570
No. positive to Mantoux test	120
No. vaccinated with B.C.G.	425

After B.C.G. Vaccination

No. having follow-up Cantoux (8 weeks)	425
No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (8 weeks) ...	394
No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (12 months) ...	356
No. negative to follow-up Mantoux (12 months) ...	10

Following the Adrian report on X-ray hazards, the practice of sending children under 15 to the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit was discontinued. Now, instead of X-raying all Mantoux positive children, only those children with a strong positive Mantoux are X-rayed. These are done at the Chest Clinic by arrangements with Dr. Hughes. The parents of these children are also notified to attend for X-ray in an endeavour to find possible contacts. One infectious case of tuberculosis was found during the year. A careful check of all the other children and staff in the school did not reveal any further cases.

Care of the Aged

During the year the County Council introduced the Chiropody Service, including certain categories of elderly people. This service should prove invaluable in keeping the old people mobile, and it is to be hoped that those eligible will use this service to the full.

The "Meals on Wheels" service proved very useful to the elderly who are housebound.

Loan of Nursing Equipment

Supplies of nursing equipment, apparatus, etc., are available for loan to patients from stocks supplied to district nurses in accordance with the scale agreed to by the Cheshire County Council and my Commitee. A reserve stock is also kept at my Divisional Office.

A patient borrowing equipment under the above heading is required to pay a deposit, which is refunded when the article is returned in good condition.

There has been an increased demand for this equipment during the year, and this service is much appreciated by those concerned.

Convalescent Home Treatment

The Committee has power to send persons in need of rest but not nursing care to convalescent homes. Three applications were received for such treatment during the year, and arrangements were made for two weeks' convalescent home treatment for each patient.

The patients are required to pay towards the cost of their stay in these homes, according to the scale laid down by the County Council.

Handicapped Persons

A register of Handicapped Persons is kept in my office, and the patients are visited by the health visitors to ascertain what assistance can be given to these persons, working in conjuncion with the various voluntary societies, etc.

Health Education

Health Education is a very important part of the Health Department's work, albeit a difficult one, and one whose degree of success is impossible to assess. Posters are displayed throughout the Division, and pamphlets are distributed at the Welfare Centres.

An encouraging aspect of this work is the good attendances at the ante-natal classes at Stockton Heath. These young mothers are given talks on various aspects of health, and their interest and enthusiasm is very refreshing. It is to be hoped that such classes will continue to grow in Runcorn and Frodsham, since this is undoubtedly a successful way of getting Health Education across to people.

The individual contact of Health Visitors in the course of their daily rounds remains the largest single factor in this work.

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of domestic helps employed at 31st December 1959 was 49.

The number of cases provided with domestic help during the year increased from 158 to 168, an increase of 10. The total number of hours domestic helps were supplied to cases during the year was 37,780, compared with 34,000 in 1958, an increase of 3,780 hours.

The increase in the number of cases and in the hours help was supplied, was due mainly to the aged persons group.

During the year the supply of domestic help in the Stockton Heath and Grappenhall areas greatly improved by the employment of local people, which resulted in a reduction in the amount paid out in travelling expenses.

The following table shows the types of case supplied with help during 1958 and 1959:—

	Confinement Cases	*Tuberculosis Cases*	*Aged Persons*	*Case of other Illness*
1959	22	2	128	16
1958	19	2	118	19

At 31st December 1959 there were 112 protracted cases remaining on the register, an increase of 7 on the 1958 total.

During the year the Committee considered all cases supplied with the services of a domestic help.